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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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CANNED FRUIT
FCAN 1-69
January 1969

LARGER PACKS OF AUSTRALIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN CANNED DECIDUOUS FRUIT

Output of canned deciduous fruit in Australia and South Africa continued upward during 1968. A record combined mixed fruit pack of 2,835,000 cases, basis 24/2½'s, and a large pear pack of 4,470,000 pushed the combined deciduous fruit pack to 18,421,000 cases, 4 percent above 1967. Australia reports a record total pack of 10,989,000 cases and South Africa reports 7,432,000 cases, the second largest pack on record. Peaches are the most important item in each, representing 47 percent of the Australian pack and 62 percent of the South African pack. The upward trend in canned peach production paused at 9,800,000 cases, slightly less than 1967. The 1968 apricot pack totaled 1,316,000 cases, 26 percent below last season.

Combined exports of canned deciduous fruit continued to climb during 1967. Total Australian exports reached a record 7,262,000 cases. South African exports declined to 6,530,000 cases. Combined exports of peaches and mixed fruits established new records during 1967. Combined exports of apricots and pears declined.

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

Australian and South African canned deciduous fruit production

Kind of fruit	Average	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968 1/
	1956-60 : 1961-65							
	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/
<u>Apricots:</u>								
Australia	702	651	823	437	750	663	1,054	723
South Africa	742	816	828	680	1,080	988	723	593
Total	1,444	1,467	1,651	1,117	1,830	1,651	1,777	1,316
<u>Peaches:</u>								
Australia	1,863	3,183	3,331	3,333	4,319	4,565	5,038	5,158
South Africa	2,084	3,325	3,533	3,439	4,283	4,646	4,830	4,642
Total	3,947	6,508	6,864	6,772	8,602	9,211	9,868	9,800
<u>Pears:</u>								
Australia	2,130	2,788	2,653	3,207	2,455	3,384	2,797	3,206
South Africa	550	954	914	1,318	1,126	1,486	1,131	1,264
Total	2,680	3,742	3,567	4,525	3,581	4,870	3,928	4,470
<u>Mixed fruits:</u>								
Australia	233	517	442	616	894	1,220	1,406	1,902
South Africa	379	338	297	343	531	685	700	933
Total	612	855	739	959	1,425	1,905	2,106	2,835

1/ Estimate. 2/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

AUSTRALIA

Australia reports the fourth consecutive record deciduous fruit pack despite water shortages caused by drought conditions. The 1968 pack has been estimated at 10,989,000 cases, basis $24/2\frac{1}{2}$'s, 7 percent above last season and 35 percent above the 5-year 1962-66 average. Existing cold-storage and canning capacity was physically unable to handle all available fruit, and some growers without direct or guaranteed access to existing cooperative canneries had marketing difficulties. Record packs were reported for peaches and mixed fruit. The pear pack was above 1967 and normal. Canned apricot production was below 1967 but above average.

The portion of the Australian pack meeting export quality is no longer a limiting factor in export supplies as more than 90 percent of most packs are now passed for export by the Commonwealth Inspection Service. Detailed statistics for 1967 pack indicate a continued upward trend in utilization of 8-ounce, No. 1 and No. 10 size cans. The No. 2 can, however, continues as the leading container for all fruits.

Aggressive marketing policies, including export payments from funds originating from a levy on domestic sales, have enabled Australia to make significant inroads in markets formerly held by other countries. Resulting sales to export markets outside the United Kingdom have risen rapidly in the last 2 years. A July 1968 agreement with the United States calls for Australia to suspend export payments to continental Europe and other specified markets until May 1969. At this time Australia will review the export situation for Australian canned peaches. If exports during the period were unsatisfactory, Australia will allow time for consultation with the United States before resuming export payments. Total export sales continued to show a significant gain during 1968. Available data indicate record shipments to Western Europe and Canada during 1968. Total exports are estimated at 8,050,000 cases during 1968, 11 percent above 1967 and 58 percent above the 1962-66 average. The United Kingdom remains the largest overseas market for all Australian fruits, followed by Western Europe and Canada.

In August the Ministry for Primary Industry announced that the Government would reimburse the canned fruit industry for losses incurred subsequent to the devaluation of the British pound. Payments totaling \$4.7 million will be made in accordance with a special schedule covering price changes in various fruits and can sizes.

The fourth consecutive record canned peach pack is reported. Production in 1968 is estimated at 5,158,000 cases, 2 percent above 1967 and 37 percent above the 1962-66 average. A very dry season and irrigation limitations caused growers difficulty in bringing fruit to canners specifications. The pack is almost entirely clingstone varieties. The 1968 canned freestone production totaled only 40,000 cases.

Canned peach exports are estimated at 3,800,000 cases during 1968, 4 percent above the 1967 total of 3,657,000 cases, and 75 percent above average. Exports during the first half of 1968 showed substantial gains over those in the same period of 1967. Major export markets during 1967 were the United Kingdom, West Germany, Canada, and the Netherlands.

Australian canned fruit pack by quality,
grade, and can size, 1967

Grade	Apricots	Peaches	Pears	Mixed fruits ^{1/}	Total
	Equiv. 1,000 cases <u>24/2½</u>	Equiv. 1,000 cases <u>24/2½</u>	Equiv. 1,000 cases <u>24/2½</u>	Equiv. 1,000 cases <u>24/2½</u>	Equiv. 1,000 cases <u>24/2½</u>
Fancy (export)					
No. 2½	64	322	87	79	552
No. 1	30	122	58	30	240
No. 10	16	77	38	35	166
Total	110	521	183	144	958
Choice (export)					
No. 2½	210	1,121	975	448	2,754
No. 1	151	898	924	338	2,311
8 oz.	14	25	27	36	102
No. 10	50	126	200	161	537
Total	425	2,170	2,126	983	5,704
Standard (export)					
No. 2½	81	1,498	189	69	1,837
No. 1	56	81	116	39	292
8 oz.	5	4	3	---	12
No. 10	16	50	20	40	126
Total	158	1,633	328	148	2,267
Domestic Pack					
No. 2½	214	492	87	78	871
No. 1	112	186	58	51	407
8 oz.	2	1	1	---	4
No. 10	33	35	14	2	84
Total	361	714	160	131	1,366
Grand total	1,054	5,038	2,797	1,406	10,295

^{1/} Includes all mixed fruits other than tropical fruit salad.

Source: Australian Canned Fruits Board.

Australian canned fruit production and exports,
average 1962-66, annual 1964-68

Canned Fruit	: Average : 1962-66	: 1964	: 1965	: 1966	: 1967	: Estimate : 1968
	: 1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	: cases 1/	cases 1/	cases 1/	cases 1/	cases 1/	cases 1/
Production:						
Apricots	: 717	437	750	663	1,054	723
Mixed fruit	: 723	616	894	1,220	1,406	1,902
Peaches	: 3,761	3,333	4,319	4,565	5,038	5,158
Pears	: 2,941	3,207	2,455	3,384	2,797	3,206
Total deciduous .	: 8,142	7,599	8,418	9,832	10,295	10,989
Exports:						
Apricots	: 247	197	215	304	378	350
Mixed fruit	: 419	353	573	808	1,132	1,400
Peaches	: 2,174	1,983	2,760	2,859	3,657	3,800
Pears	: 2,256	2,236	2,022	2,657	2,095	2,500
Total deciduous .	: 5,096	4,769	5,570	6,628	7,262	8,050

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Australian packout of all canned fruit, annual 1962-67

Grade	: 1962	: 1963	: 1964	: 1965	: 1966	: 1967
	: Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Fancy	: 6.9	4.3	7.2	8.0	10.6	9.3
Choice	: 56.9	56.8	61.7	56.9	62.3	55.4
Standard	: 7.0	10.9	11.6	11.8	11.3	22.0
Domestic	: 29.2	28.0	19.5	23.3	15.8	13.3

Source: Australian Canned Fruits Board.

Australian canned peach supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	471	814	996	817
Production	4,319	4,565	5,038	5,158
Total	4,790	5,379	6,034	5,975
Distribution:				
Exports	2,760	2,859	3,657	3,800
Domestic consumption	1,216	1,524	1,560	1,550
Ending stocks, December 31	814	996	817	625
Total	4,790	5,379	6,034	5,975

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Excellent bloom and less drought damage than that affecting other fruits permitted a sharp rebound from the small 1967 canned pear pack. Canned pear production is estimated at 3,206,000 cases, 15 percent above 1967 and 9 percent above average. Some difficulty in sizing was noted in the Goulburn Valley. However, Victoria reported a record canning quality pear crop.

Exports of canned pears are estimated at 2,500,000 cases, over 400,000 more than in 1967 and 11 percent above average. Australia reported a 27-percent gain in canned pear exports during the first 6 months of 1968. U.S. imports of Australian pears totaled 179,000 cases during the first 10 months of 1968.

Australian canned pear supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	634	366	571	581
Production	2,455	3,384	2,797	3,206
Total	3,089	3,750	3,368	3,787
Distribution:				
Exports	2,022	2,657	2,095	2,500
Domestic consumption	701	522	600	600
Ending stocks, December 31 .	366	571	581	687
Total	3,089	3,750	3,368	3,787

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Drought conditions in South Australia and poor crops in New South Wales cut the canned apricot pack to 723,000 cases, 31 percent below the record 1967 crop of 1,054,000 cases but approximately equal to the 1962-66 average.

Australian canned apricot supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	162	205	131	262
Production	750	663	1,054	723
Total	912	868	1,185	985
Distribution:				
Exports	215	304	378	350
Domestic consumption	492	433	545	500
Ending stocks, December 31 .	205	131	262	135
Total	912	868	1,185	985

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Lower exports of canned apricots are estimated for 1968. Total exports are estimated at 350,000 cases, 7 percent below 1967 but 42 percent above the 1962-66 average of 247,000 cases. The United Kingdom and Canada remain the major export outlets for Australian canned apricots.

Australian mixed fruit pack composition, 1959-68

Year	: Fruit : cocktail	: Fruit : salad	: Two-fruits:	: Total
	: 1,000 : cases 1/	: 1,000 : cases 1/	: 1,000 : cases 1/	: 1,000 : cases 1/
1959	: 61	: 13	: 104	: 178
1960	: 47	: 36	: 118	: 201
1961	: 77	: 18	: 95	: 190
1962	: 150	: 39	: 252	: 441
1963	: 117	: 55	: 270	: 442
1964	: 197	: 56	: 363	: 616
1965	: 334	: 82	: 478	: 894
1966	: 516	: 104	: 600	: 1,220
1967	: 698	: 133	: 575	: 1,406
1968 estimate	: 1,011	: 56	: 835	: 1,902

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Production of canned mixed fruit reached another record during 1968. The pack totaled 1,902,000 cases, 35 percent above 1967 and 2.6 times the 1962-66 average. This season's fruit cocktail pack exceeded the million-case level for the first time. The mixed fruit packs were fruit cocktail, 1,011,000 cases; fruit salad, 56,000 cases; and two-fruits, 835,000 cases. Victoria is the major producer of canned mixed fruit.

Exports of mixed fruit are estimated at a record 1,400,000 cases during 1968, 24 percent more than in 1967 and over three times the 1962-66 average. The United Kingdom and Canada remain the major export markets for Australian mixed fruit.

Australian canned mixed fruit^{1/} supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases</u> ^{2/}	1,000 <u>cases</u> ^{2/}	1,000 <u>cases</u> ^{2/}	1,000 <u>cases</u> ^{2/}
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	129	188	306	280
Production	894	1,220	1,406	1,902
Total	1,023	1,408	1,712	2,182
Distribution:				
Exports	573	808	1,132	1,400
Domestic consumption	262	294	300	350
Ending stocks, December 31	188	306	280	432
Total	1,023	1,408	1,712	2,182

^{1/} Canned composite packs, including fruit salad, fruit cocktail, and diced two-fruit mixtures. ^{2/} Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Total acreage of Australian noncitrus orchard fruit dipped slightly, while bearing acreage again increased slightly during the 1966-67 season. The area of noncitrus orchard fruit totaled 181,744 acres, 77 percent bearing and 23 percent nonbearing. Bearing acreage of apricots, peaches, and pears has been relatively stable since the 1964-65 season, and only slight changes were apparent during the 1966-67 season. Nonbearing peach acreage increased 4 percent but remained considerably below the level reached during the early 1960's.

Production of canning fruit is centered in the State of Victoria, where 64 percent of the 1967 deciduous fruit pack was processed. Victorian packs of all deciduous fruit items except pears continued to increase during 1967. A short pear crop reduced canned pear packs in all States except South Australia. Victoria accounted for 51 percent of the apricot pack, 51 percent of the peach pack, 89 percent of the pear pack, and 72 percent of the mixed fruit pack in 1967. Bearing acreage of apricots, canning peaches, and canning pears remained stable in Victoria during the 1966-67 season while nonbearing acreage declined slightly.

Australian minimum grower prices for peaches and pears were unchanged in 1968. Reported 1968 peach minimums were: clingstone with clear centers, \$97 per ton; other clingstones, \$93 per ton; and freestones, \$68 per ton. Minimum grower price for Bartlett pears was \$97 per ton. Apricots dropped to the 1965 level of \$100 per ton. Cannery must purchase their fruit at not less than the minimum prices if they wish to qualify for sugar rebates paid by the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee.

Australian 1967 canned fruit exports by country
of destination

Fruit and destination	Amount
	1,000
	<u>cases 1/</u>
<u>Apricots:</u>	
United Kingdom	246
Europe	49
Canada	51
Other	32
Total	378
<u>Peaches:</u>	
United Kingdom	1,291
Europe	1,785
Canada	461
Other	120
Total	3,657
<u>Pears:</u>	
United Kingdom	1,662
Europe	175
Canada	122
Other	136
Total	2,095
<u>Mixed fruit:</u>	
United Kingdom	596
Europe	323
Canada	139
Other	74
Total	1,132
Grand total	7,262

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

SOURCE: Australian Canned Fruits Board.

Australian acreage of selected fruit, 1960-61 through 1966-67

Year	Apricots			Peaches			Pears		
	Bearing	Nonbearing	Total	Bearing	Nonbearing	Total	Bearing	Nonbearing	Total
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1960-61 ..	9.2	2.7	11.9	15.1	11.8	26.9	17.8	6.1	23.9
1961-62 ..	9.4	2.1	11.5	19.7	9.9	29.6	18.5	6.8	25.3
1962-63 ..	9.9	1.9	11.8	22.2	8.0	30.2	20.0	6.0	26.0
1963-64 ..	10.0	1.9	11.9	23.0	7.2	30.2	20.3	5.6	25.9
1964-65 ..	9.4	1.9	11.3	24.8	5.6	30.4	19.5	6.6	26.1
1965-66 ..	9.4	2.0	11.4	24.9	5.1	30.0	19.8	6.1	25.9
1966-67 ..	9.5	1.8	11.3	24.8	5.3	30.1	19.7	5.9	25.6

Source: The Fruit Growing Industry, Australia, No. 23, Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Canberra, 1966-67

Australian acreage of selected fruit by State in 1966-67

Kind of fruit	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Total
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
Bearing area:							
Apples	13.4	16.7	9.7	4.6	11.6	15.2	71.2
Apricots	1.7	3.0	.4	3.8	.2	.4	9.5
Cherries	2.0	1.2	(1/)	.4	(1/)	.1	3.7
Nectarines	.4	.2	.1	.1	.1	(1/)	.9
Peaches:							
Canning	3.7	10.0	1.4	3.9	.8	(1/)	2/24.8
Other	2.9	2.1				(1/)	
Pears:							
Canning	.9	7.3	.5	1.6	.8	.3	2/19.6
Other	1.7	5.4				1.1	
Plums	1.4	1.2	1.1	.3	.9	.1	3/ 8.3
Prunes	2.7	.2	--	.5	--	(1/)	9.6
Pineapple	.1	--	9.5	--	--	(1/)	
Total area:							
Apples	19.0	22.2	13.7	5.9	15.7	18.5	95.0
Apricots	2.0	3.3	.5	4.8	.3	.4	11.3
Cherries	3.2	2.0	(1/)	.6	(1/)	.1	5.9
Nectarines	.5	.3	.1	.2	.1	(1/)	1.2
Peaches:							
Canning	4.5	11.6	1.7	4.8	.9	(1/)	30.1
Other	3.7	2.9				(1/)	
Pears:							
Canning	1.2	10.4	1.0	1.9	1.1	.3	25.6
Other	2.0	6.4				1.3	
Plums	1.8	1.6	1.3	.3	1.1	.1	10.2
Prunes	3.1	.3	--	.6	--	(1/)	
Pineapple	.3	--	14.8	--	--	--	15.1
1/ Less than 100 acres. 2/ Total canning and other. 3/ Total plums-prunes.							

Source: The Fruit Growing Industry, Australia, No. 23, Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Canberra, 1966-67.

Australian canned deciduous fruit production by State,
average 1961-65 and annual 1962-67

Kind of fruit	Queensland	New South Wales	Victoria	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Total
	1,000 cases 1/	1,000 cases 1/	1,000 cases 1/	1,000 cases 1/	1,000 cases 1/	1,000 cases 1/	1,000 cases 1/
<u>Canned apricots:</u>							
Average:							
1961-65	27	110	294	214	2	4	651
Annual:							
1962	42	124	504	239	2	7	918
1963	34	144	444	217	3	4	846
1964	7	49	250	133	1	3	443
1965	26	171	197	352	1	3	750
1966	18	99	415	130	1	---	663
1967	38	228	541	246	---	1	1,054
<u>Canned peaches:</u>							
Average:							
1961-65	36	760	1,698	680	9	---	3,183
Annual:							
1962	36	802	1,756	659	6	---	3,259
1963	56	790	1,881	602	10	---	3,339
1964	29	859	1,686	747	12	---	3,333
1965	33	1,004	2,315	951	16	---	4,319
1966	34	984	2,433	1,093	21	---	4,565
1967	47	1,058	2,579	1,329	25	---	5,038
<u>Canned pears:</u>							
Average:							
1961-65	13	131	2,481	107	1	55	2,788
Annual:							
1962	13	102	2,689	131	3	68	3,006
1963	21	154	2,375	49	---	54	2,653
1964	22	164	2,854	117	---	50	3,207
1965	6	106	2,127	162	1	53	2,455
1966	17	165	3,053	81	---	68	3,384
1967	15	126	2,492	114	---	50	2,797
<u>Canned mixed fruit:</u>							
Average:							
1961-65	34	35	344	104	---	---	517
Annual:							
1962	64	41	268	68	---	---	441
1963	29	42	294	77	---	---	442
1964	30	45	361	180	---	---	616
1965	39	38	668	149	---	---	894
1966	49	61	919	191	---	---	1,220
1967	39	28	1,016	323	---	---	1,406
<u>Total deciduous fruit:</u>							
Average:							
1961-65	110	1,036	4,817	1,105	12	59	7,139
Annual:							
1962	155	1,069	5,217	1,097	11	75	7,624
1963	140	1,130	4,994	945	13	58	7,280
1964	88	1,117	5,151	1,177	13	53	7,599
1965	104	1,319	5,307	1,614	18	56	8,418
1966	118	1,309	6,820	1,495	22	68	9,832
1967	139	1,440	6,628	2,012	25	51	10,295

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Source: Australian Canned Fruits Board

Australian canned fruit minimum opening export prices for
shipments to the United Kingdom (c.i.f. U.K. port), 1963-68

Fruit and pack style	Price per dozen 2½'s		
	Fancy	Choice	Standard
	<u>U.S. dollars</u>	<u>U.S. dollars</u>	<u>U.S. dollars</u>
Apricots:			
Halves:			
1963	3.29	3.08	2.94
1964	3.43	3.22	3.08
1965	3.43	3.22	3.08
1966	3.50	3.29	3.15
1967	3.57	3.36	3.22
1968	3.18	3.00	2.88
Peaches (clingstones):			
Halves and slices:			
1963	3.22	3.01	2.87
1964	3.43	3.22	3.08
1965	3.43	3.22	3.08
1966	3.46	3.26	3.12
1967	3.40	3.26	3.12
1968	3.03	2.91	2.79
Pears (Bartletts):			
Halves and quarters:			
1963	3.50	3.29	3.15
1964	3.57	3.36	3.22
1965	3.57	3.36	3.22
1966	3.64	3.43	3.29
1967	3.64	3.43	3.29
1968	3.18	3.00	2.88
Fruit cocktail:			
1963	3.78	3.57	3.43
1964	4.06	3.85	3.71
1965	3.92	3.71	3.57
1966	4.16	3.96	3.82
1967	4.13	3.92	3.78
1968	3.90	3.72	3.60
Two-fruit:			
1963	3.22	3.01	2.87
1964	3.43	3.22	3.08
1965	3.43	3.22	3.08
1966	3.46	3.26	3.12
1967	3.40	3.26	3.12
1968	3.06	2.94	2.82
Fruit salad:			
1965	--	--	--
1966	4.69	4.48	4.34
1967	4.69	4.48	4.34
1968	4.38	4.20	4.08

Source: Australian Canned Fruits Board

Australian canned fruit minimum grower prices
per short ton 1/ for first-quality fruit,
average 1962-66 and 1963-68 seasons

Fruit	:Average: :1962-66:	1963	: 1964 :	1965	: 1966 :	1967	: 1968
	: U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.
	: <u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>
Apricots	: 91	86	86	96	100	106	100
Peaches:							
Cling, clear center	: 90	88	82	94	97	97	97
Cling, other	: 86	84	78	90	93	93	93
Freestone	: 62	60	56	68	68	68	68
Pears:							
Bartlett	: 88	84	84	92	95	97	97
Packham's Triumph	: 69	68	64	72	72	92	(2/)

1/ Delivered to either the grower's railroad siding or to the cannery door.

2/ Not available.

Source: Australian Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee.

Australian 1968 minimum opening prices (c.i.f., U.K. port) were above 1967 openings in pounds sterling but below 1967 in equivalent U.S. dollars because of the November 1967 devaluation of the British pound.

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa reports the second largest canned deciduous fruit pack in recent years. The 1968 pack is estimated at 7,432,000 cases, basis 24/2½'s, 5 percent below the 1966 record of 7,805,000 tons but 22 percent above the 5-year 1962-66 average. Production of canned pears and fruit salad increased during 1968. Peach production declined slightly but remained considerably above average. The 1968 apricot pack was below 1967 and average.

Exports of South African canned deciduous fruit are estimated at 6,550,000 cases during calendar 1968 approximately the same as last season and 21 percent above average. Exports of pears and fruit salad were above 1967 and considerably above average. Peach exports totaled 4,200,000 cases. Exports of apricots were below 1967 and average. The United Kingdom is the leading export market for South African canned deciduous fruit.

South African canned peach production is estimated at 4,642,000 cases, 4 percent below the record 1967 pack of 4,830,000 cases and 25 percent above average. The pack has been growing steadily in recent years and dipped only slightly during 1968. Exports are estimated at 4,200,000 cases, about the same level as in the 1967 season.

South African canned peach supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Production	4,283	4,646	4,830	4,642
Total	4,283	4,646	4,830	4,642
Distribution:				
Exports	3,831	3,938	4,224	4,200
Domestic disappearance	452	708	606	442
Ending stocks, December 31	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Total	4,283	4,646	4,830	4,642

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans. 2/ Not available.

South African canned fruit production and exports,
average 1962-66, annual 1964-68

Canned fruit	Average 1962-66	1964	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Production:						
Apricots	841	680	1,080	988	723	593
Peaches	3,720	3,439	4,283	4,646	4,830	4,642
Pears	1,098	1,318	1,126	1,486	1,131	1,264
Fruit salad	435	343	531	685	700	933
Total deciduous	6,094	5,780	7,020	7,805	7,384	7,432
Exports:						
Apricots	804	592	1,057	921	695	550
Peaches	3,320	3,277	3,831	3,938	4,224	4,200
Pears	925	1,055	1,059	1,189	981	1,050
Fruit salad	342	294	440	560	630	750
Total deciduous	5,391	5,218	6,387	6,608	6,530	6,550

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Canned pear production is above 1967 and average. The 1968 pack is estimated at 1,264,000 cases, slightly above 1967 and 15 percent above the 1962-66 average. Exports are estimated at 1,050,000 cases, 7 percent above last season and 14 percent above average.

South African canned pear supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	:	1965	:	1966	:	1967	:	Estimate
	:		:		:		:	1968
	:	1,000	:	1,000	:	1,000	:	1,000
	:	<u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	:	<u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	:	<u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	:	<u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>
Supply:	:		:		:		:	
Beginning stocks, January 1	:	(2/)	:	(2/)	:	(2/)	:	(2/)
Production	:	1,126	:	1,486	:	1,131	:	1,264
Total	:	1,126	:	1,486	:	1,131	:	1,264
Distribution:	:		:		:		:	
Exports	:	1,059	:	1,189	:	981	:	1,050
Domestic disappearance	:	67	:	297	:	150	:	214
Ending stocks, December 31	:	(2/)	:	(2/)	:	(2/)	:	(2/)
Total	:	1,126	:	1,486	:	1,131	:	1,264

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans. 2/ Not available.

The smallest apricot pack in recent years is reported for 1968. Canned apricot production is estimated at 593,000 cases, 21 percent below 1967 and 29 percent below the 1962-66 average. As a result, exports have fallen to the lowest level in recent years. Exports are estimated at 550,000 cases, 20 percent below 1967 and 32 percent below average.

South African canned apricot supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Production	1,080	988	723	593
Total	1,080	988	723	593
Distribution:				
Exports	1,057	921	695	550
Domestic disappearance	23	67	28	43
Ending stocks, December 31	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Total	1,080	988	723	593

1/ Cases of equivalent 2¹/₂ No. 2 cans. 2/ Not available.

The third consecutive record pack of fruit salad was reported in 1968. Production is estimated at 933,000 cases, 33 percent above 1967 and more than double the 1962-66 average. Fruit salad exports are estimated at a record 750,000 cases, 19 percent above last year.

South African canned fruit salad supply and distribution, 1965-68

Item	1965	1966	1967	Estimate 1968
	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>	1,000 <u>cases 1/</u>
Supply:				
Beginning stocks, January 1	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Production	531	685	700	933
Total	531	685	700	933
Distribution:				
Exports 3/	440	560	630	750
Domestic disappearance	91	125	70	183
Ending stocks, December 31	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Total	531	685	700	933

1/ Cases of equivalent 2¹/₂ No. 2 cans. 2/ Not available. 3/ Exports are only available on a November-October year.

Note: Fruit salad includes fruit cocktail but is not reported separately.

South African minimum grower prices for fresh deciduous
fruits for processing, 1964 through 1968 1/

Kind	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
	Dol. per short ton	Dol. per short ton	Dol. per short ton	Dol. per short ton	Dol. per short ton	Dol. per short ton
Apricots:						
Royal	89.00	66.80	58.30	75.10	75.10	78.10
Bulida	(2/)	(2/)	41.70	44.50	52.80	58.60
Peaches:						
Clingstone	69.40	64.30	76.40	83.40	69.50	69.70
Pears:						
Bon Chretien	68.50	72.30	70.90	77.80	(2/)	(2/)
Packham's						
Triumph ...	44.20	62.60	62.60	63.60	(2/)	(2/)

1/ Grade 1. 2/ No quotation available.

Source: Canning Apricot and Peach Board and Deciduous Fruit Board.

South African acreage of apricots and freestone peaches has shown a steady decline during recent years. Apricot tree numbers reached a peak of 3,366,000 trees in 1952 and held relatively stable for 5 years before developing a downward trend in 1957. Since that time, tree numbers have dropped by more than half from 3,272,000 to 1,534,000 trees in 1966. Much of the decline has been in the Royal variety which still comprises 70 percent of all canning apricot trees. Bulida variety trees, however, are increasing in number and now comprise 29 percent of all canning apricot trees--up sharply from 10 percent in 1957. The freestone peach sector is dominated by the Elberta variety which comprises 75 percent of all freestone trees. The downward trend which began in 1952 is expected to continue.

Clingstone peach acreage continues to increase in South Africa. Total trees numbered 3,088,000 in 1966, 6 percent above the 1964 total of 2,924,000 trees and 43 percent above 1957. Kakamas remains the predominant variety, but growers are making heavy plantings of the four early Kakamas-type varieties to more evenly spread the harvesting season. Kakamas variety has slipped from 53 percent to the total in 1964 to 47 percent in 1966. The four early Kakamas varieties--Oom Sarel, Prof. Malherbe, Prof. Black, and Prof. Neethling--increased from 12 percent in 1964 to 20 percent in 1966.

Plantings of selected South African fruits standing in 1966

Fruit and variety	Year planted					Total
	Before	1963	1964	1965	1966	
	1963	1963	1964	1965	1966	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	trees	trees	trees	trees	trees	trees
<u>Apricots:</u>						
Royal	927.7	66.7	39.3	28.9	26.0	1,089.6
Bulida	257.8	48.8	80.1	31.8	14.6	433.0
Other	9.3	---	1.8	.6	.7	444.5
Total 1/	1,194.8	115.5	121.2	61.3	41.3	1,534.1
<u>Clingstone peaches:</u>						
Kakamas	1,178.7	95.6	55.6	64.3	89.0	1,483.1
Oom Sarel	30.1	19.5	20.8	29.1	30.2	129.7
Prof. Malherbe	18.9	15.1	20.5	22.8	25.6	103.1
Prof. Black	32.1	46.5	50.1	57.0	62.6	248.3
Prof. Neethling	28.0	30.6	20.4	18.4	45.3	142.7
Keimoes	316.9	16.3	7.2	6.2	8.4	355.0
Goosen	275.3	8.2	6.2	.5	3.0	293.2
Woltemade	120.4	16.3	6.7	5.5	9.7	158.7
Walgant	62.3	12.5	14.1	14.4	20.2	123.5
Others	45.3	1.8	3.1	---	.2	50.5
Total 1/	2,108.2	262.5	204.5	218.3	294.2	3,087.9
<u>Freestone peaches:</u>						
Elberta	162.5	3.9	4.0	.2	2.8	173.4
Other	52.1	1.1	2.6	.6	1.5	57.9
Total 1/	214.6	5.0	6.6	.8	4.3	231.3
<u>Pears:</u>						
Bon Chretien	750.7	43.9	34.7	32.5	2/	2/
Packham's Triumph	347.0	27.1	21.0	28.6	2/	2/

1/ Totals do not necessarily add because of rounding.

2/ Not available.

Source: Canning Apricot and Peach Board and Deciduous Fruit Board

South African canned fruit minimum opening selling
prices c.i.f. (U.K. ports) 1967-68

Fruit and pack style	Fancy	Choice	Standard
	Dol. per dz. 2½'s	Dol. per dz. 2½'s	Dol. per dz. 2½'s
Apricots:			
1967	3.22	3.01	2.87
1968	2.76	--	2.52
Peaches:			
Clingstone halves and slices			
1967	3.22	3.08	2.94
1968	2.76	2.64	2.52
Pears:			
Bon Chretien halves			
1967	3.43	3.29	3.15
1968	2.97	2.85	2.73
Fruit salad:			
1967	4.41	4.27	4.13
1968	4.14	4.02	3.90
Fruit cocktail:			
1967	3.99	3.78	3.64
1968	3.69	3.51	3.39

The Canning Apricot and Peach Board has announced higher 1969 minimum grower prices. Minimums are reported at \$78.10, \$58.60 and \$69.70 per short ton for first grade Royal and Bulida variety apricots and clingstone peaches respectively. Minimum prices paid to farmers for canning apricots were unchanged to higher, while prices for peaches declined during 1968. First grade Royal variety apricots were reported at \$75.10 per ton, Bulida variety apricots \$52.80, and clingstone peaches \$69.50 per ton during the 1968 season. Second quality Royals were unchanged from 1967 prices, for Bulidas prices were higher, and for second quality clingstone peaches they declined.

Minimum 1968 opening prices for South African canned deciduous fruit were above those of 1967 in pounds sterling but below 1967 levels in equivalent U.S. dollars because of the devaluation of the British pound. Apricots opened at \$2.76 per dozen No. 2½ cans, fancy grade; peaches, \$2.64 per dozen, choice grade; pears \$2.85; fruit salad \$4.02; and fruit cocktail \$3.51 per dozen, choice grade.

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